GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:197
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2016
Shut Down of Kudankulam Nuclear Project
P. Shri Nagarajan;Rajesh Shri M. B.;Senguttuvan Shri Balasubramaniam

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)whether it is true that the Kudankulam nuclear plant that was shut down for maintenance in June could not be restarted and its operations were delayed due to a problem with the plant''s seawater coolant pumps;

(b)if so, the details thereof; and

(c)the steps taken to restart the plant/unit along with its present status?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)&(b) The Unit-1 of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP-1) operated for about twenty months since its grid connection before it was taken for planned shutdown on June 24, 2015 for refueling. The unit had generated 6875 Million Units (including infirm generation of 2243 MUs) of electricity during this period. This was the first planned shutdown after a long operation and required a detailed surveillance and maintenance. Thus, apart from refueling, completing all the surveillance tests as per the technical specifications, mandatory checks on various components as per the manufacturer's recommendation and rectification of the deficiencies identified during the inspection were carried out during the shutdown. The unit was connected to the grid after the shutdown on January 30, 2016. There were no problems noticed in seawater coolant pumps.

(c)The plant was restarted on January 30, 2016 after the refueling shutdown.

*****